



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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***RURAL COMMUNITIES TO RECEIVE \$546,713
Funding to Pay for Marketing and Renovation of 15 Arizona Tourist Sites***

PHOENIX - Governor Janet Napolitano announced today that rural communities in Arizona will receive \$546,713 in funding to help pay for tourism-related development projects. The funding from the Rural Tourism Development Grant Program through the Arizona Office of Tourism (AOT) will provide money for 15 different tourism entities across the state, including two tribal organizations.

“Tourism is one of Arizona’s main economic drivers, pumping nearly \$51 million into our economy every day,” Governor Napolitano said. “These grants will help rural communities renovate their tourist attractions and bring more visitors to the state, which is an economic benefit to all Arizonans. “

The FY 2008 grants will be awarded to cities, towns, chambers of commerce, tribal communities, and convention and visitors' bureaus. Entities that receive grant funds are encouraged to combine these awards with private and other grant monies to enhance tourism development in their communities. The grant program is administered and managed through AOT, and provides funding to support marketing efforts as well as renovation and construction projects directly related to tourism in rural Arizona.

The recipients of the grants are: the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum, the City of Bisbee, the Town of Clarkdale and Clarkdale Heritage Center, the Cosanti Foundation at Arcosanti, the Friends of Madera Canyon, the Heber-Overgaard Chamber of Commerce, the Institute of Ecotourism (Yavapai County), the City of Nogales, the Oatman Goldroad Chamber of Commerce, the Phippen Museum (Yavapai County), the Town of Quartzsite, the Bylas District of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Sedona Chamber of Commerce, the City of Winslow, and the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

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